

ASK A LAWYER By Richard Niedermayer, LLB, TEP

Who should I choose as an executor?

An executor is the person you choose to carry out the directions in your Will after your death. This person must have the time and ability to carry out many duties as your personal representative. Two or more persons can act as co-executors.

Managing an estate can be difficult and time-consuming. If there are ongoing trusts in your Will, the responsibilities can last for several years. Some things to keep in mind are:

- Your executor should be a trustworthy and reliable adult with good judgment. Some business knowledge is preferable, but not required.
- You should ask the chosen person's permission to be named as executor so that you
 are sure he or she will agree to act at the required time.
- To reduce administrative expenses, choose someone who lives in the same province.
- Choose someone who is likely to outlive you.
- You should name a substitute executor in case your first choice dies, moves away, or is
 otherwise unable to do the job.
- Your spouse, a friend, a family member, or a beneficiary may not have the necessary qualities to do a good job as executor. A professional executor may be an option.
- · If your preferred executor lacks the required skills, you could consider naming them to act jointly with a trust company.
- You can name your lawyer as your executor, but most lawyers do not often act as executors. Before you name your lawyer, check that he or she is willing and able to act.

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From April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2008, the QEII Health Sciences Centre benefited from the generosity of many individuals in our community who made the Health Centre a part of their estate planning. Their commitments amounted to more than \$1,250,000 to improve health care for patients by purchasing medical equipment, funding research and education, and supporting programs in many areas of patient care. These gifts, ranging in size from \$200 to \$225,000, are a testament to the generosity of our donors and are of special significance. Gifts in the form of bequests were received from the following:

The Estate of Victor Louis Beed
The Estate of Michael R. Benteau
The Estate of Patricia Mary Bilsbury
The Estate of Edward J. Boutilier
The Estate of Helena M. Burry
The Estate of Thomas W. Chisholm
The Estate of Kenneth M. Coudrey
Miss Florence M. Cox
The Estate of Gerald Roy Cox
The Estate of James Gordon Currie
The Estate of M. Stella Deveau
The Estate of Howard B. Elliot
The Estate of Donald (Cory) Freeman
The Estate of Bessie E. Gould
The Estate of Heidi L. Grundke

The Estate of Ivor R. Harrington The Estate of F. Jean Hayman The Estate of Elizabeth Herridge The Estate of Dorothy A. MacLeod The Estate of Vivienne McCabe The Estate of Evelyn M. Negus The Estate of Alice Neilly The Estate of Jean Nelson Ms. Barbara Nielsen (in memory of son, Tom Norwood) The Estate of B. Malcolm Patterson The Estate of Katherine Schwartz The Estate of George Slaunwhite The Estate of Daisy M. Spearwater The Estate of Bertha B. Stevens The Estate of Lena M. Swan The Estate of Daisy M. Wile

These generous individuals used their financial resources and estate planning to make a difference in the lives that follow. The choice to leave a legacy supporting the QEII Health Sciences Centre will result in better health care for all of us.

QEII Health Sciences Centre Quick Facts 06/07

Emergency Room Visits	56,442
Active Research Projects	1,200
Heart Transplants	10
MRI Brain Scans	381
Day Surgeries Specialty Rooms	34,524
Employees	7,380
Volunteers	1,400
Inpatient Admissions	24,598
Diagnostic & Therapeutic Appointments	323,000



May is LEAVE A LEGACY™ month - a public awareness campaign that promotes the benefits of leaving a bequest in your Will to help your favourite charitable organization.

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